

Model Study of a Cretaceous-Paleocene Basin, West Greenland

The onshore Cretaceous-Paleocene sedimentary succession of the Nuussuaq Basin in West Greenland is well known for its extremely well-preserved macroplant and invertebrate fossils and the presence of coal. The earlier work suggested major age differences between the various lithological units. However, recently the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland (GEUS) initiated extensive work on lithostratigraphy (acquisition of seismic data and substantial onshore field studies) in view of an exploration target due to the finds of widespread oil seeps in the basin resulting in drilling of the first onshore exploration well in Greenland in 1996. The entire lithostratigraphic work is now published in the form of bulletin (Gegers Dam et al. 2009, Geol. Surv. Denmark and Greenland, Bull. No.19, 171p). It consists of excellent field photos, lithosections, sedimentological logs and beautiful aerial photographs of the exposed sections including fan delta, fluviodeltaic, shelfal and deep marine deposits. The ages of most of the formations provided on the basis of palynological evidences and documented the areal extent of sedimentary and volcanic rocks on maps and vertical sections.

In India, we have many sedimentary basins and much work has been done on lithostratigraphy. The present bulletin can be a typical model for undertaking detailed studies in India. The attention of our readers is drawn to this excellent study. A copy is available in the Geological Society of India library for reference. The bulletin definitely inspire those who are interested in lithostratigraphic work and will assuredly serve as useful reference guide for stratigraphers and researchers. –

U.B. MALLIKARJUNA

(Email: mallikarjunaub_@rediffmail.com)